

No Choice for Police

Without Notice from Hackers, MIT Police Couldn't Know Concrete "Bomb" Was Safe

By Michael McGraw-Herdeg

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

MIT police probably would not have called in the fire department to inspect a bomb-shaped concrete hemisphere on Kresge Oval if someone had taken responsibility for it before or immediately after they put it up.

The Burton Third Bombers now face the possibility of shouldering MIT's costs for the incident — potentially thousands of dollars — if Cambridge decides to charge the Institute for its efforts in ensuring the hemisphere was harmless.

Students claimed the "bomb" as theirs in discussions with house-masters and Senior Associate Dean for Students Barbara A. Baker, said Burton-Conner housemaster Merritt Roe Smith. But those claims came mid-Friday morning, long after police had called in the Cambridge authorities, who called in the city's bomb squad.

Police weren't told in advance of the "bomb," actually a party advertisement. No note was left explaining what it was or how to take it down, and no one was around to say it was theirs in the early Friday morning hours after it went up.

The "bomb" was actually a concrete hemisphere with a rope "fuse" and metal stakes affixing it to the ground. It was painted with the letters "DTYD" to advertise the 40th "Dance Till You Drop" party, held by the Burton Third Bombers, the third floor of the Burton half of Burton-Conner Hall.

Just before 4 a.m. on the morning of Friday, April 24, MIT police eyed the bomb, tipped off by *Tech* photographer Eric D. Schmiedl '09 at about 3 a.m. that there was something interesting to see on the lawn. Schmiedl asserts he described it as a "fake concrete bomb," but MIT police only recall being told to look at it.

Bomb scare, Page 12

Police called MIT Facilities to ask for help removing the hemisphere, to avoid a flood of concerned phone calls to the Cambridge Police.

MIT police were pretty sure that the hemisphere was just a student prank. It looked like something out of a Wile E. Coyote cartoon, after all. But as police considered how to remove the "bomb," no one from Burton Third was on site to explain that it was completely harmless and contained no pyrotechnics, or to help take it down.

As daylight began to stream onto the lawn, police were unable to get the "bomb" out of plain sight, MIT Police Chief John DiFava said. (It weighed hundreds of pounds and eventually required a forklift to remove.)

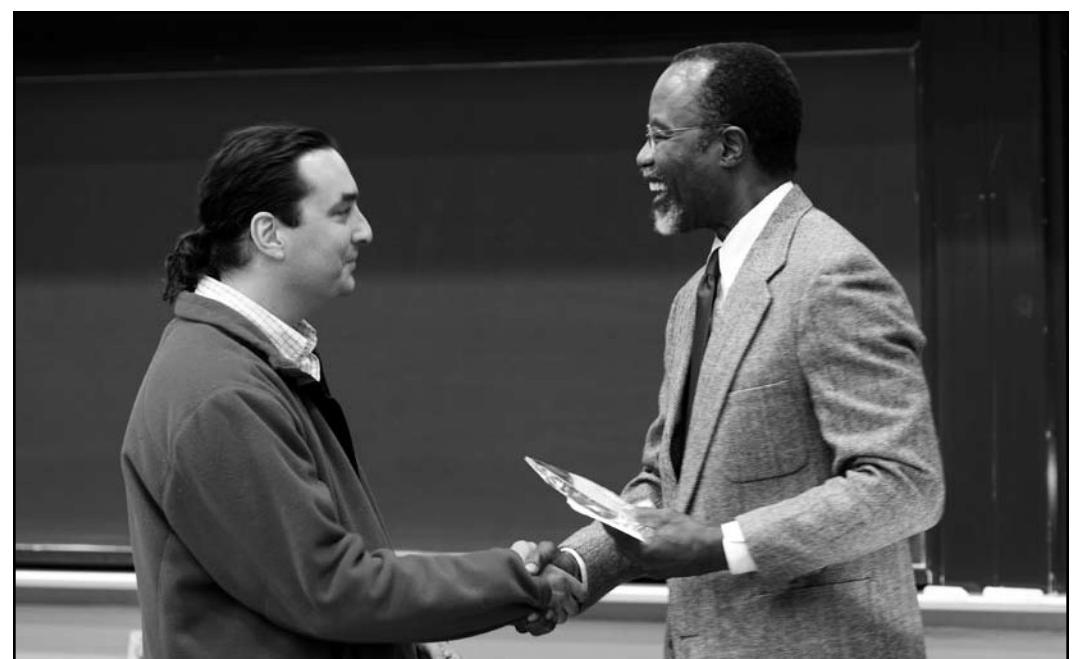
Phone calls started coming into the MIT police station about the bomb. With no way to be completely sure that the hemisphere was harmless, and no way to remove it, police called in the fire department to make sure that the bomb was harmless. The Cambridge Fire Department was called at about 5 a.m.; the bomb squad arrived by 6:40 a.m.; and the all-clear was given about two hours later.

In the end, it took a fire truck, a winch, and a long chain to pull the concrete hemisphere out of the ground.

Better outcomes were likely if MIT police made the call rather than have someone else do so, DiFava said. "Do we call the fire department or does someone else call?"

Still, MIT might not have called Cambridge if students had been available to explain the item, DiFava said.

What about the contention that police should have known the



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

East Campus House Manager Joseph F. Graham Jr. is awarded the James N. Murphy Award for his contributions to community life at the Institute during the 2009 Awards Convocation, held in 10-250 on Tuesday, May 5.

Neighborhood 'Galileo' Production Shows His Greatness and Defects

By Louise Kennedy

THE BOSTON GLOBE

You may think, after the Huntington's recent "Two Men of Florence," that you have seen enough of Galileo Galilei for one season. Please don't let that keep you away from David Wheeler's rich and vibrant production of the Bertolt Brecht

classic "The Life of Galileo," at the Central Square Theater.

The Life of Galileo
Play by Bertolt Brecht, translated by David Hare.
Directed by David Wheeler. Set and puppets, David Fichter. Costumes, Heidi Hermiller. Lights, Kenneth Helwig. Music and sound, Ramon Castillo. Masks, Eric Bornstein. Presented by Catalyst Collaborative@MIT and Underground Railway Theater.
At: Central Square Theater, Cambridge
(Just up Mass. Ave past Random Hall before Economy Hardware and Mary Chung's)
Through May 17. Tickets, \$32, 866-811-4111
<http://www.centralsquaretheater.org>

Presented by Catalyst Collaborative@MIT and Underground Railway Theater, this "Galileo" has

a relatively bare stage and simple costumes. But Heidi Hermiller's costumes get the job done, and David Fichter supplements the minimal set — a floor decorated with a sunburst, some scaffolding to

serve as parapet or observatory — with stunning murals on the theater's side walls. Kenneth Helwig's lighting illuminates key elements of these murals, from the Romulus and Remus statue symbolizing Rome to the looming sphere of Jupiter, as they come into play.

Galileo, Page 14

Terminated MIT Police Officer Identified

By John A. Hawkinson

NEWS EDITOR

The MIT Police officer fired early last month was Duane R. Keegan. Keegan was terminated in early April after an incident where he and another officer removed copies of *The Tech* from newsstands and placed them in recycling bins.

Campus Police Chief John DiFava and Captain Albert F. Pierce, Jr. confirmed Keegan's termination, but declined to comment on the reasons, citing confidentiality concerns and personnel regulations.

Keegan's termination came after he and an unidentified officer were suspended without pay after the recycling incident, which took place on March 17.

Keegan, Page 11

Berenson Gives Birth In Prison

By Emily Prentice

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Lori H. Berenson, a former MIT undergraduate, gave birth to a baby boy named Salvador Anespori Apari Berenson Wednesday while serving a 20-year sentence in Peru for collaborating with the leftist rebels of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement, the Associated Press said. Berenson and the father of her son, Anibal Apari, a former member of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement, met in prison and were married in 2003.

Under Peruvian law, Berenson is permitted to raise her son in prison until he is three years old. She will become eligible for parole in November 2010, according to the AP. Apari was released from prison in 2003 and is currently a lawyer in Lima. Berenson's sentence will end in 2015, and she will then be expelled from Peru.

Berenson, Page 11

In Short

¶ Show your mother you care! Call her on Sunday for Mother's Day.

¶ Energy Secretary Steve Chu (and Nobel Laureate!) gives the Compton Lecture Tuesday at 4 p.m. in 10-250. Hear Harvard's Commencement speaker before they do!

★★★: *Star Trek* kicked off the summer movie season last night and "reboots" the *Trek* movie franchise with a prequel featuring lots of action, fun in-jokes for fans of the original series, a satisfying cameo by Leonard Nimoy, and a dead-sexy young Spock.

¶ Last Test Date is today. No test or assignment can be due after today in subjects with a final exam. Visit <http://ua.mit.edu/violations> for more information.

¶ Donate blood next week in the Student Center. MIT employees are allowed time off with pay while they donate. See <http://web.mit.edu/blood-drive> to make an appointment.

Send news information and tips to news@the-tech.mit.edu.



A robot built by Benjamin Moncivaiz '11 begins a seeding match in the 2007 (Design & Manufacturing) competition. The event ran from Wednesday to Thursday in the Johnson Athletic Center. This year's competition involved crushing and storing aluminum cans.

Stay Tuned...

After the Alpha Tau Omega house was damaged last summer from a pipe leak, rendering it temporarily uninhabitable, the fraternity lost its charter from the national fraternity, according to Cambridge License Commission minutes. Yesterday morning, the CLC held a decision meeting where — if ATO regained its charter — the committee could have decided to grant the fraternity a housing license.

ARTS

Music made from mixed-together YouTube clips

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Tokyo Sonata reviewed

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WORLD & NATION

Pronunciation Trips Up Amazon's Kindle

By Tim Arango

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Amazon Kindle, an electronic reader, has had praise lavished on it by hopeful newspaper and book executives who believe it has the potential to do for newspapers and books what the iPod did for music.

But if the Kindle, which not only displays the news but also speaks it with a computerized voice, is ever to be the savior of print media, it needs to bone up on its pronunciation.

In particular, the voice of the Kindle mispronounces two important words that show up often in the pages of newspapers: "Barack" (rhymes with "black") and "Obama" (sounds like "Alabama").

The latest version of the Kindle was unveiled Wednesday at a news conference in Manhattan and has a big screen aimed at newspaper readers.

When asked about the error in pronouncing the president's name, Jeffrey P. Bezos, chief executive of Amazon.com, said, with his trademark laugh, "that's unfortunate."

The next day, an Amazon spokesman, Andrew Herdener, wrote in an e-mail message that Nuance Communications, the Massachusetts-based company that licenses its text-to-speech engine to Amazon for the Kindle, had added the correct pronunciation of the president's name.

"Nuance has updated its dictionary, which we plan to include in an upcoming wireless update to Kindle devices," Herdener wrote.

Apparently, the matter was a simple oversight.

"These things happen a lot," said Steve Chambers, an executive at Nuance, which also licenses its technology to Apple, Amtrak, United Airlines and Bank of America. "It's not even considered a bug. If it encounters a word it has never seen, it approaches it almost like a kid, phonetically."

Kindle owners in Boston, however, may want to stick to the front section and avoid the sports pages for now. The Kindle pronounces "Celtics" with an initial hard "c."

Hope in Hand, Benedict Prepares a Mideast Blitz

By Rachel Donadio

THE NEW YORK TIMES

VATICAN CITY

When Pope John Paul II traveled to the Holy Land in 2000, the visit was history, the first by a pope to recognize the state of Israel or visit sites holy to Islam.

When Benedict XVI travels on Friday to Jordan, Israel and the Palestinian territories, it will be much more about him personally. A man whose four-year papacy has been marked by missteps that angered and offended Jews and Muslims will deliver 32 speeches at some of the holiest sites in the world to Muslims, Jews and Christians. Already, Islamic groups in Jordan are protesting.

In the works since last fall, Benedict's trip comes at a time of change and uncertainty in the region. Israel just ushered in a new right-wing government, that of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. And the two main Palestinian factions remain hostile and divided, with the secular Palestinian Authority, led by President Mahmoud Abbas, controlling the West Bank and the Islamist group Hamas ruling Gaza.

Emotions are still raw after 1,300 Palestinians were killed in the Israeli military assault on Gaza in January, which the Vatican criticized.

But Vatican officials say the pope was eager to make the trip, no matter the conditions, given his age. He turned 82 this month.

His visit comes three years after he offended many Muslims with a speech in Regensburg, Germany, in which he quoted a Byzantine emperor who said Islam encouraged violence and brought things "evil and inhuman." To make amends, he reached out to various Muslim groups and prayed in the Blue Mosque in Istanbul on a trip to Turkey two months after the speech. And he will continue that effort in Jordan, where he arrives Friday and will visit a mosque and meet with Muslim clerics and scholars.

U.S. Orders 10 Big Banks to Raise Another \$75 Billion

By Edmund L. Andrews

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

After subjecting the nation's biggest banks to the most public scrutiny in decades, federal regulators ordered 10 of them on Thursday to raise a total of \$75 billion in extra capital and gave the rest a clean bill of health.

The long-awaited results of the "stress tests," a central part of the Obama administration's plan to restore the financial industry to health, set off an immediate scramble by major institutions for more capital, which they must raise by November.

The verdict was far more upbeat than many in the industry had feared when the tests were first announced in February. And the banks that came up short will have to raise much less than some analysts had expected as recently as a few days ago.

The stress tests were aimed at estimating how much each bank would lose if the economic downturn proved even deeper than currently expected. But regulators gave the banks a break by letting them bolster their capital with unusually

strong first-quarter profits and also by letting the banks predict modest profits even if the economy again turns down.

Despite an almost tangible sense of relief among the banks and investors, the report card is unlikely to silence an intense debate over whether the Treasury Department and the Federal Reserve let the banks off too easily and glossed over their real problems.

Under the worst-case situation — an unemployment rate of 10.3 percent next year, an economic contraction of 3.3 percent this year and a 22 percent further decline in housing prices — the losses by the 19 banks could total \$600 billion this year and next, or 9.1 percent of the banks' total loans, regulators concluded. That rate of loss would be higher than any other since 1921, including the losses during the Great Depression.

But while the adverse situation was supposed to be unlikely, it is not that much worse than what has happened so far. Unemployment hit 8.5 percent in April and could top 9 percent as early as Friday, when the Labor Department releases its em-

ployment report for May.

Bank of America was told it would have to come up with \$34.9 billion. Wells Fargo will have to find \$13.7 billion. And Citigroup must produce another \$5.5 billion, on top of the \$45 billion that it had already planned to acquire by letting the Treasury become its biggest single shareholder.

Industry executives reacted with jubilation, as if they had proved their critics wrong and passed the tests with flying colors.

"The results off the stress tests should put to rest the harmful speculation we have seen over the past few months," declared Edward L. Yingling, president of the American Bankers Association, hours before the results were even made public.

Investors, who had already bid up share prices of the big banks in reaction to leaks about the results earlier this week, reacted with relief.

Regulators and bank executives alike predicted that most of the institutions would be able to build up the necessary capital from private sources — either by selling off assets or by converting shares of preferred stock into ordinary stock.

Katrina Victims Face Loss of Temporary Housing

By Shaila Dewan

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW ORLEANS

Earnest Hammond, a retired truck driver, did not get any of the money that went to aid property owners after hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

He failed to qualify for one federal program, and was told he missed the deadline on another. But he did get a trailer to live in while he implements his own recovery plan: collecting cans in a pushcart to pay for the renovations to his storm-damaged apartment, storing them by the roomful in the gutted building he owns.

It is a slow yet steady process — before the price of aluminum fell to 30 cents a pound, from 85 cents, he had accumulated more than \$10,000, he said, almost enough to pay the electrician. But despite such progress, last Friday a worker from the Federal Emergency Management Agency de-

livered a letter informing him that it would soon repossess the trailer that is, for now, his only home.

"I need the trailer," said Hammond, 70. "I ain't got nowhere to go if they take the trailer."

Though more than 4,000 Louisiana homeowners have received rebuilding money only in the last six months, or are struggling with inadequate grants or no money at all, FEMA is intent on taking away their trailers by the end of May. The deadline, which ends temporary housing before permanent housing has replaced it, has become a stark example of recovery programs that seem almost to be working against one another.

Thousands of rental units have yet to be restored, and not a single one of 500 planned "Katrina cottages" has been completed and occupied. The Road Home program for single-family homeowners, which has cost federal

taxpayers \$7.9 billion, has a new contractor who is struggling to review a plethora of appeals, and workers who assist the homeless are finding more elderly people squatting in abandoned buildings.

Nonetheless, FEMA wants its trailers back, even though it plans to scrap or sell them for a fraction of what it paid for them.

"All I can say is that this is a temporary program, it was always intended as a temporary program, and at a certain point all temporary programs must end," said Brent Colburn, the agency's director of external affairs. He said there would be no extensions.

As of last week, there were two groups still in the agency's temporary housing program: more than 3,000 in trailers and nearly 80 who have been in hotels paid for by FEMA since last May, when it shut down group trailer sites.

WEATHER

A Spring Sampler

By Vince Agard

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

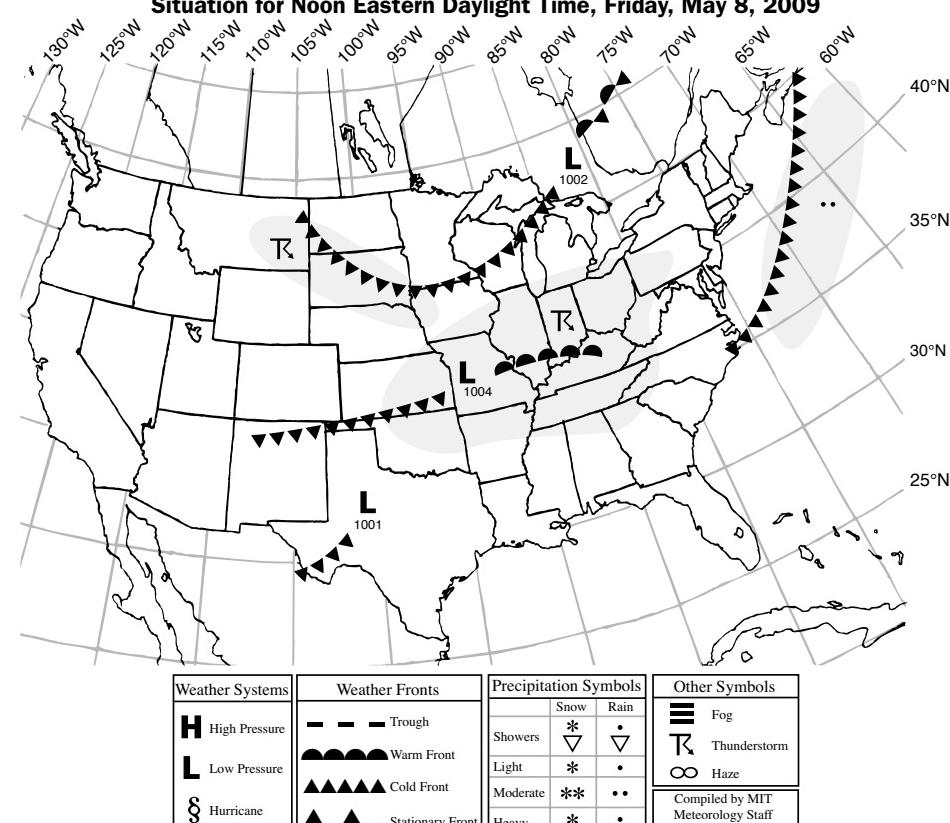
This weekend's weather will feature a sampling of typical spring conditions for New England. Sunny skies will be prevalent at times, but will be interspersed with clouds and rain. The average high temperature for this time of the year in Boston is around 65 degrees, and temperatures will range near this figure for most of the weekend. The Boston area will get a taste of partly sunny spring days today and tomorrow, but a thunderstorm or two are likely to make their way across the region this afternoon. Finally, a cold front will reach the area toward the end of the weekend, bringing with cooler temperatures, cloudy skies, and a few showers. Hence, our campus will experience warm, sunny weather, thunder and lightning, and a few spring showers over the course of a single weekend.

Before clouds move in on Sunday and Monday, the temperature will likely warm up to the mid 70s on Saturday afternoon. While it will be warmer than average, the record high of 95 degrees will be safely out of reach. In fact, it will likely be a while before the next summer-like heat wave like the one that struck earlier this year at the end of April. During that time, offshore winds drove the temperature to record highs of 83 and 87 degrees on April 25 and 26, respectively. There won't be any scorchers for now, however, as the weather will remain very springlike.

Extended Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy with an afternoon thundershower, High 69°F (21°C).
Tonight: Partly cloudy, Low 56°F (13°C)
Tomorrow: Partly cloudy with rain possible overnight, High 75°F (24°C)
Sunday: Mostly cloudy, Highs in the upper 60s°F (20°C)
Monday: Mostly cloudy, highs around 60°F (16°C)

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Friday, May 8, 2009



Baseball Star Ramirez Is Sport's Latest Drug Failure

By Michael S. Schmidt

THE NEW YORK TIMES

When Major League Baseball officials examined the results of urine tests from the slugger Manny Ramirez earlier this season, they became suspicious. While the tests did not show clear evidence of a performance-enhancing drug, there were traces of banned substances present, enough to initiate a process that has now left one of the best hitters in baseball history with a 50-game suspension.

Nearly 30 major leaguers have been suspended for using performance-enhancers since players began penalty testing in 2004, and Ramirez is now the biggest of those names. But he might have not have been punished at all had baseball officials, in following up on his ambiguous test, not asked for his medical files.

It was in those files, said people in baseball with knowledge of the matter, that the officials discovered that Ramirez had been prescribed human chorionic gonadotropin, or HCG, a fertility drug for women that men can use to generate production of testosterone after they have stopped using steroids.

As a result, Commissioner Bud Selig suspended Ramirez on Thursday for the documentary evidence tying him to HCG rather than for a positive drug test. But the impact is the same. A player seemingly bound for the Hall of Fame now finds himself permanently tarnished, and baseball is left to cope with another drug revelation about another premier player.

The famously quirky Ramirez, known for his dreadlocks, baggy pants and often oblivious demeanor, had signed a two-year \$45 million contract with the Los Angeles Dodgers in March and will now lose about a third of his salary this season. And the Dodgers, who had put together the best record in baseball this season (21-8 entering Thursday), will be without their best hitter until early July.

The suspension is also a significant setback for the Dodgers' efforts to grow their Hispanic fan base by marketing Ramirez as strenuously as possible. After he was traded to Los Angeles from the Boston Red Sox last July, Ramirez became the hottest hitter in baseball and carried the Dodgers to the postseason. The

team's attendance and television ratings increased significantly.

This season, the Dodgers even formally designated a section of seats in left field as "Mannywood." In those seats, fans could hope to catch one of Ramirez's home runs or yell out to him as he patrolled left field.

All that has been put aside for now. Instead, Ramirez now becomes part of an ever-growing group of elite players from the past decade — including Alex Rodriguez, Barry Bonds, Mark McGwire, Roger Clemens, Rafael Palmeiro and Jason Giambi — who have been linked in one way or another to the use of performance-enhancing drugs. Of those players, only Palmeiro was actually suspended for a positive test. His suspension came in 2005, only months after he adamantly denied using drugs a nationally televised congressional hearing.

In a statement on Thursday, Ramirez, 36, stated that a doctor gave him a medication that was not a steroid for a personal health issue and that he believed he could use it without violating the drug-testing program.

stration's other requirements — including a new cost-cutting deal with unions and persuading its bondholders to agree to sharply reduce debt — the company looks less viable, not more, than it did five months ago.

With Chrysler already operating under bankruptcy protection, many industry analysts said they think GM is next.

"It's looking like a real high probability," said Brett D. Hoselton, an analyst with KeyBanc Capital Markets. "Chrysler is the best indicator at this point of where we're heading with GM."

Investors appear to be arriving at the same conclusion. GM's stock dropped to \$1.60, down 3 percent, on Thursday, and its market capitalization fell below \$1 billion.

In the first quarter, GM lost \$5.9 billion, excluding special items, during the three-month period that ended in March. Its revenues fell to \$22.4 billion — a 47-percent drop compared to the first quarter of 2008. It was the company's eighth consecutive quarterly loss.

GM said it built 1.33 million vehicles globally in the quarter, 903,000

fewer than it did in the same period last year.

The company's chief financial officer, Ray Young, called the drop in production "a staggering number," and said consumers are showing increasing concern about GM products because of the potential for a bankruptcy filing.

If GM does have to file for bankruptcy protection, Young emphasized on Thursday that the automaker would need to emerge quickly from court proceedings to keep sales from falling even more.

"Once you start losing revenues, you get yourself into a vicious cycle from which you cannot recover," Young said in a conference call with analysts and reporters. "We prefer to restructure outside of bankruptcy, but if we have to go in, we need to go in and out quickly."

GM ended the quarter with \$11.6 billion in cash, roughly the level of liquidity it has said it needs to keep operating and paying its bills.

Since then, the government has lent GM an additional \$2 billion to reach the June 1 deadline to submit its turnaround plan.

With its cash reserves down to the bare minimum and its revenues plunging, GM seems daily to be heading closer toward a bankruptcy filing.

The automaker's first-quarter earnings released Thursday showed that GM was losing more money and sales than it was in late December, when the government began its bailout.

With its cash reserves down to the bare minimum and its revenues plunging, GM seems daily to be heading closer toward a bankruptcy filing.

The company is entering the final stages of formulating a restructuring plan to be submitted to the Obama administration's auto task force by June 1 with the goal of qualifying for more federal aid.

But the depths of GM's financial problems continue to worsen. The company is spending more than \$113 million a day than it is taking in from sales of its vehicles around the world.

Even if GM satisfies the admin-

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Since then, the government has lent GM an additional \$2 billion to reach the June 1 deadline to submit its turnaround plan.

With its cash reserves down to the bare minimum and its revenues plunging, GM seems daily to be heading closer toward a bankruptcy filing.

The company is entering the final stages of formulating a restructuring plan to be submitted to the Obama administration's auto task force by June 1 with the goal of qualifying for more federal aid.

But the depths of GM's financial problems continue to worsen. The company is spending more than \$113 million a day than it is taking in from sales of its vehicles around the world.

Even if GM satisfies the admin-

China Reports School Death Toll in 2008 Quake

By Andrew Jacobs

and Edward Wong

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BEIJING

After a year of obfuscation, the authorities on Thursday released the first official tally of student deaths from the earthquake last May, saying that 5,335 children either were dead or remained missing. An additional 546 were left disabled, they said.

Previous estimates placed the number of students who died in the collapse of school buildings during the May 12 earthquake in Sichuan province as high as 10,000.

The issue of student deaths remains a contentious one here. The parents of children who perished in the rubble of classrooms say the buildings were poorly constructed; the government has largely quashed the issue by harassing or detaining those who insist on pushing the matter.

With the first anniversary of the quake fast approaching, the government has stepped up its campaign to silence those who have been calling for a full accounting of why so many schools failed while adjacent structures remained undamaged. In recent days, several parents whose children died — and who have refused to stay quiet — said they had been placed under heightened surveillance, and some foreign journalists who tried to interview grieving parents have been detained.

The newly released numbers did little to quell critics. Ai Weiwei, an artist who is one of China's best-known gadflies, said the figures were "meaningless" because they lacked specifics, like names, ages and places of death.

Government officials say that 68,712 people died during the earthquake. An additional 17,921 are listed as missing but are presumed to be dead. According to the official media, 7,000 classrooms and dormitory rooms collapsed during the quake.

Wildfire Is Out of Control on Hills By Santa Barbara

By Rebecca Catcart

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SANTA BARBARA, CALIF.

A wildfire on the hills near this oceanside city continued to burn out of control on Thursday, and firefighters struggled to pen in the flames. Although faltering winds slowed the fire's spread through the day, officials worried that the blaze could worsen as the humidity dropped, temperatures rose and the evening winds returned.

"Firefighters have been building lines in pieces around the

OPINION



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Corrections

The Friday, May 1 article "Student Tested For Swine Flu; Results Aren't In Yet" incorrectly reported that an MIT student living off-campus had been diagnosed with influenza A and was being tested for swine flu. The error arose because of a confusion between two cases.

A student was seen by MIT Medical on Thursday, April 23 for a respiratory illness and was never tested for influenza. The student's illness has been labeled a "probable" swine flu case because he had recently returned from Mexico and because the Boston Public Health Commission found connections between the student and some of those with "probable" swine flu infections at the Harvard Dental School, said Howard M. Heller, chief of internal medicine at MIT Medical. Whether the student's case was swine flu cannot be determined because samples were not taken for testing on April 23.

Separately, an MIT affiliate covered by the MIT health plan, but not faculty or staff, was diagnosed with influenza A on Monday, April 27. The person had no travel or exposure risk, but their case of the flu is being considered a "probable" case of swine flu because their strain of influenza A does not match seasonal influenza strains. The error in Friday's article, based on information from Heller, arose because of confusion between the two cases.

Because of an editing error, the last two paragraphs of the Tuesday, May 5 opinion piece on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Cleverer and Cleverer," were omitted. The complete version is available online at <http://tech.mit.edu/V129/N24/yost.html>.

The same piece incorrectly claimed that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission recently reclassified depleted uranium from Class C waste to Class A waste, which has less rigorous handling requirements. The recent ruling by the NRC actually decided against reclassifying depleted uranium — which is currently Class A waste — to a level with stricter handling requirements.

The March 31 editorial about the Graduate Student Council presidential elections misleadingly stated that Alex Hamilton Chan G "was instrumental in creating the new dental plan for graduate students." 2008–2009 Housing and Community Affairs Committee (HCA) Co-Chairs Chan and Dacheng Lin G helped implement the plan, but it was Tanguy My Chau G and Robert Yuanbo Wang G, HCA co-chairs in 2007–2008, who formulated the initial plan.

The Tuesday, April 28 article "BC 'Dance Till You Drop' Stunt Fizzles Out" misspelled in one place the last name of *Tech* photographer Eric D. Schmiedl '09.

The May 1 review of Ben Folds' performance at MIT's Spring Weekend concert used the wrong date for the event. It was held on Saturday, April 25, not Friday, April 24.

Letters To The Editor

NRC Faults Yost's Analysis

Keith Yost ("Cleverer and Cleverer," May 5) commits a gross error and perpetuates a fallacy about the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, both of which should be corrected.

The error is his misrepresentation of the Commission's recent decision regarding disposal of depleted uranium. The Commission did not reclassify depleted uranium from Class C low-level waste to Class A, as Mr. Yost states. Depleted uranium has always been Class A waste and has been safely disposed in relatively small amounts as Class A for decades; the Commission's finding was that large amounts of depleted uranium can be safely disposed as Class A, depending on the characteristics of the disposal site. Mr. Yost and the "few anti-nuclear environmentalists" he cites may "seethe" at the "Republican-tilted Commission," but they should at least get their facts right.

Mr. Yost appears to suggest that the NRC is motivated by politics. Although by law the five-member Commission may have no more than three members from the same political party, over the agency's history major policy decisions have rarely been decided along party lines. Rather, the Commissioners — be they Republican or Democrat in the voting booth come November — are motivated by a common goal of ensuring the safe use of nuclear power and radioactive materials for the benefit of society.

David McIntyre
Public Affairs Officer
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Editor's note: See correction above.

When Did MIT Give Up on Excellence?

I read with dismay the recent article "Pistol & Gymnastics Among Eight Varsity Sports To Be Slashed." While I was saddened to read of the cuts, I understand that there are widespread budget problems throughout society at the current time.

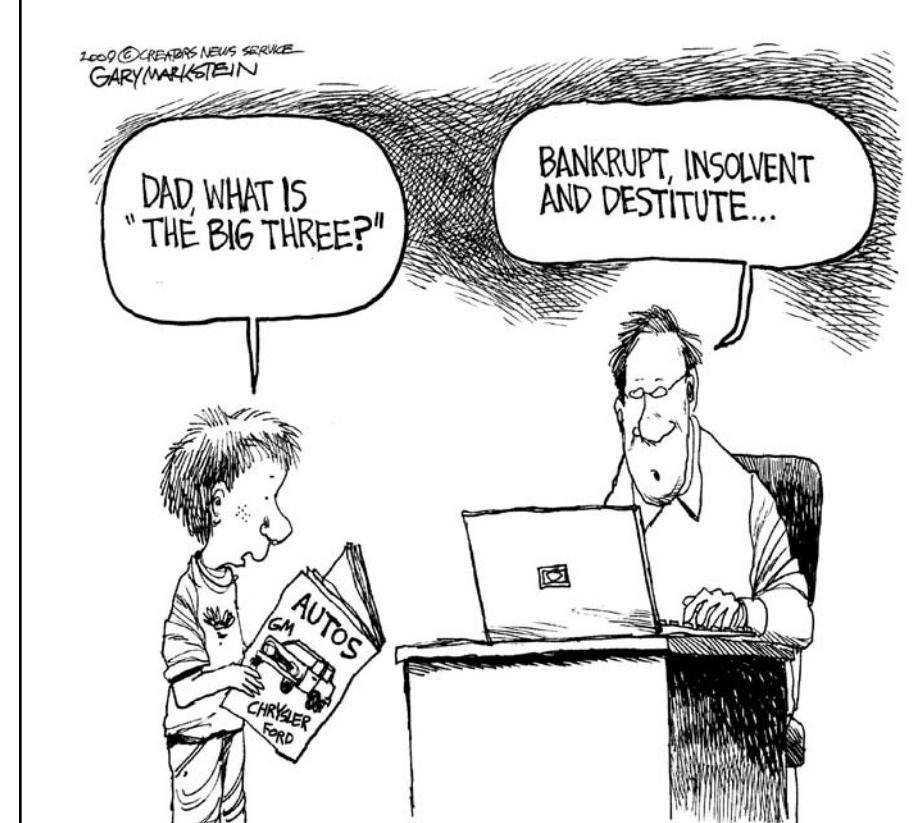
However, I was dismayed to see the quote "With the cuts, DAPER has kept its word in not taking performance into consideration." That

Sports Cuts Draw Alum Ire

As a 4 year MIT golfer I was shocked to find out last week that MIT had axed the golf team. This misguided decision will tarnish many of my best memories of MIT, to say nothing of the effect it will have on current team members.

I do understand that budget cuts are sometimes necessary, so in that spirit I've decided to reduce my expenses by zeroing out my alumni contributions. If even a small number of other alumni decide as I have, it will cancel out any savings MIT hopes to achieve by this unfortunate action.

Leo Bonnell '77



Opinion Policy

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Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will

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Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community and have the author's name in italics. Columns without italics are written by *Tech* staff.

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The nth Annual Chomsky Rant in Bad Taste; Are We Moving Forward?

Stephen Fried

Contrary to all expectations, the main speaker at this year's annual Palestine Awareness Week (PAW) is... Noam Chomsky. The purpose of this opinion, however, is not to criticize Chomsky's rhetorical methods (Ophir and Fakerman, Vol. 128, Issue 65) or to contextualize the misleading remarks he makes (Maurer, Vol. 128, Issue 64). Rather, my grievance is with the organizers who continue to give Chomsky a forum to repeat the same message — time and time and time yet again.

Chomsky also spoke this January about the war in Gaza, and at several other widely publicized events during the four years of my time at MIT at venues similar to the present one. The problem with Chomsky is not that his views are "extreme" or "controversial;" the problem is that the only speakers Palestinian activists invite are Chomsky or his equivalents. Even more, the film that will be screened this week, *Occupation 101*, is literally the same one that was screened for last year's PAW on April 1, 2008.

In a letter that appeared in the May 4, 2007 issue of *The Tech*, activists stated that, "The main objective of PAW is to educate." If we are being educated, why are we being inundated with the same opinions — to the exclusion of all other discourse — on arguably the most complex political situation in current world af-

fairs? With no irony, activists further expressed in their letter, "PAW demonstrates a commitment to productive and soft-spoken educational discourse." Chomsky?... soft-spoken? Right.

What appalls me most is how little has changed in the Palestinian activist camp since I came to MIT. During my sophomore and junior years, I served as the president of the ASA group MIT Students for Israel. At the beginning of my tenure, I admit that we invited speakers to campus, who upon reflection, I now see were offensive to students who have national aspirations in conflict with my own. Events of this nature — perhaps the MIT community might have noticed — ceased in the last two years.

Israel activists instead have participated in MISTI Israel and worked on scientific problems in Israeli universities and companies; they have formed Hibur, a partnership between MIT and Technion (the Israel Institute of Technology); they have sponsored Israeli cultural events; they have taught Hebrew classes on campus through the Ulpan program; and they have taught in Israel and in the Palestinian territories through MEET (Middle-East Education through Technology). These examples are illustrative of Israel activism at MIT today. I hope you agree that they reflect values of MIT as an institution — of making change by doing, of looking at new ways of tackling complicated problems, of not dwelling on the past.

Through PAW, Palestinian activists have

continually stated aims such as: "provide an on-campus venue for open dialogue" (Vol. 127, Issue 63). I openly ask, where is this dialogue? How does inviting the most acerbic and confrontational speakers year after year for PAW promulgate any interchange between sides, except a silent and frustrated one? To illustrate my case, allow me to share that in the weeks before PAW 2008, a friend and I proposed working with PAW activists to plan an actual dialogue event between Arab/Palestinian students and Jewish/Israeli students over the film *Promises*, reserved 6-120 for the event, only to have the idea postponed and postponed into oblivion by PAW activists. Dialogue?

It is time to set Chomsky and his cohorts aside. The problems of the 21st century will not be solved by revering our over-opinionated antecedents; I submit that they are the ones who have failed us by refusing to change, to listen, to reflect. PAW has, in my honest opinion, been trapped in this obsolete (shall I say Chomskian?) paradigm for the last four years. Let's peel away the hypocrisy and the pretense: I challenge Palestinian activists to recognize this over-politicized flag-waving for what it is: counterproductive. Although I will not be here to see it personally, I sincerely hope that PAW 2010 will obviate the concerns presented in this article, and will start a new chapter for the Palestinian student group.

Stephen Fried is a member of the Class of 2009.

UA Update

Dining Is Topic of Emergency Senate Meeting

An emergency Senate meeting was held last Monday to discuss the issue of dining as drafts of reports from both the Blue Ribbon Committee (BRC) on Dining and the entirely-student Dining Proposal Committee (DPC) had been published last week.

Senators expressed concern over the BRC's report, especially regarding the increase in mandatory fees for students living in dorms with dining halls. The issues articulated dealt both with the doubling of fees from \$300 to \$600 for buying into the "Individualized Eating Plan" and the high opt-out fee of \$500. Donna Denoncourt, the BRC chair, explained that this was to cover the fixed costs of the house dining system.

Students felt that the higher fees would be a negative because the cost difference between living in dorm with a dining hall and a dorm without one should not play a major role in the student's choice of residence, since data shows that dining options do not factor into the residence decision for most students. Additionally, students felt uncomfortable with the fact that the residents who would opt-out of the program would be subsidizing a program that they have expressed no interest in. The Blue Ribbon Committee representatives explained that this decision was made to address the need to make the in-house dining system more independent of other dining systems at MIT, and, therefore, more sustainable.

The Senate passed a resolution in support of the Dining Proposal Committee's report, which opposed mandatory dining for any student, regardless of residence, in the long run, while offering suggestions for increasing, but centralizing, dining options.

*—Elizabeth Denys,
UA Secretary General*

Pressing the Rewind Button on US-Russian Relations

Balancing Expectations and Rhetoric in a Post-Soviet World

Florence Gallez

"Let's re-write the end
Start over again
And it's gon' go better now
Cause when I'm looking in your eyes
Feels like the first time
Give me one good reason why
We can't just press rewind"
Mariah Carey

From the song "For the Record" (2008)

Don't dismiss Mariah Carey's schmaltzy little song too fast. She may have a point, even when it comes to such high-stake affairs as U.S. foreign policy.

Even though President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev emerged from their very first in-person meeting at the G20 economic forum in London last month with an agreement on "a fresh start," it will certainly take more than catchy promises to ensure US-Russian cooperation on crucial issues and stabilize relations, which have had a rather rough ride under the Bush-Putin administrations.

Just like the mock "reset button" that Secretary of State Hillary Clinton presented to Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov in Geneva last month on the heels of Vice President Joe Biden's earlier declaration that the Obama administration was intent "to press the reset button" in US.-Russian relations, and like President George W. Bush's famous 2001 remark that he "saw Putin's soul" by looking into his eyes, this diplomatic rhetoric has certainly an appealing resonance to it but offers little in real terms when it comes to making progress in areas of disagreement — and there are many, as the G20 forum made clear.

From the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, especially with regards to Iran and North Korea, to the deployment of a U.S. missile defense system close to Russia's borders and the inclusion of Ukraine and Georgia into an expanding NATO — Washington and Moscow will need to think beyond Cold War-era stereotypes and sweet strategic talk to work together on win-win agreements on common problems.

Healthy, sustainable bilateral relations will also depend on cooperation regarding international terrorism and energy security.

On this side of the pond, all eyes will be on Obama, often seen as overly conciliatory on foreign policy, to see how he "handles Russia." Most of all, Americans, Russians, as the rest of the world, will want to see evidence that

both countries are committed to produce concrete results on the most thorny issues — most importantly their intention to draw down and eliminate their nuclear arsenals.

On this last point the G20 was a step in the right direction, as it led to "very productive" initial talks in Rome on April 24, according to Assistant Secretary of State for Verification and Compliance Rose Gottemoeller. The talks, which centered around a new treaty to curb nuclear arms, were called after Obama and Medvedev agreed in London to craft a replacement for the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, or START I, which expires on December 5. The first full-fledged negotiations started on May 7 when Lavrov traveled to Washington to meet Obama and Clinton. The presidents have ordered reports on the talks by July, to coincide with Obama's first visit to Russia. Assuming commitments and deadlines are met, this is an encouraging schedule.

There remain major disagreements though. In addition to reaching an agreement on North Korea — which the nonproliferation treaty

could help prevent from becoming a full-fledged nuclear power — and on cooperation in the Afghanistan war, the two sides need to come to an accord when it comes to Iran, a point of convergence between the United States' focus on the use of threats and sanctions

and Russia's insistence on a more gentle, diplomatic approach.

Another pressing problem, one that has been a persistent thorn in relations, is the geopolitical power struggle occurring in the former Soviet territories — the center of Russia's strategic interests. The stickiest points surround the deployment of a U.S. missile defense system in Central Europe, to which Obama re-confirmed the United States' commitment in Prague on April 6, and the expansion of NATO through membership for Ukraine and Georgia, which Russia strongly objects to.

Russia's ingrained centuries-old xenophobic fear of "a foreign enemy" near or on its territory is well known, but Washington's deployment of new bases around its borders since the end of the Cold War — from Romania to Uzbekistan — may understandably fan such fears.

Finding ways to overcome differences and reach an agreement will require both sides to be a master hand at negotiations. It is clear that a breakthrough is still far away, but last month's resumption of formal contacts between NATO and Russia, severed for eight months over the war with Georgia, are a step in the right direc-

tion to improve relations between the former Cold War foes. The tentatively scheduled May 19 meeting between NATO foreign ministers and their Russian counterpart, Lavrov, which

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Tears and Tragedy in the World's Youngest Republic

A Story of Strife and Deceit in Nepal

Ram Rijal

Situated at the heart of South Asia, amidst major tall mountains of the World, Nepal is a beautiful land. In the 70s, Nepal was counted as one of the world's top tourist destinations. As a toddler I still remember saying in my classroom — "Guests are gods." We used to satisfy the needs of our guests before looking on to ours. Our values taught us to love every human being's and help the helpless. Our glorious history taught us to fight against injustice, yet remain peaceful. Such uniquely rich culture; rife with empathy, respect, dignity and sacrifice; has always propelled me to remain proud for my nation.

Although I only have some hazy memories of my childhood, I do remember very well that people in my little village stood behind our traditional ideals. They had no hatred — only love. They had no deceit — only truth. All of this, however, has changed. Now there are killings, jealousy and hatred. Today, I feel completely broken to even accept that Nepal is not the same. Perhaps it shall never be the same anymore. What changed?

I doubt many toddlers are still taught to say "Guests are gods." In my recent visit to my village in rural Nepal, I had a chance to interact with children, some as small as ten years old. To my utter dismay, I learned what the children were taught in class: Children were encouraged to learn the names of various guns and bombs like SLR, shotguns, socket and pipe bombs. I did not want to inquire further. I feared that they would even tell me how to construct one. The 10 year long civil war has completely ravaged Nepal.

Considered as one of the most brutal wars ever, Nepal's civil war began in 1996, when a group of young communist revolutionists de-

cided to launch guerilla warfare against the country to end capitalism in the broadest sense of the term. The war continued for ten years and led to among many other ugly consequences, the destruction of 13,000 lives, and the devastation of much of the nation's infrastructure.

"Memories hit hard," said my mother when I had gone home for one of my summer vacations. I was studying in Kathmandu then, the capital of Nepal. Like my mother, several other villagers had equally disturbing recollections. Many were tortured, some were beaten mercilessly for not providing food and shelter to the Maoists, some were amputated for not supporting their cause, and some were made to carry heavy loads on their backs under the scorching sun.

The gruesome war ended in 2006, abolishing the 240 yearlong monarchy. The dispute between the ruling party and the Maoists was settled through multilateral talks. Maoists abandoned guerrilla warfare and returned as civilians. It was the most blissful victory in the history of Nepal. Like me, almost every Nepali sang and danced at the sheer joy of freedom and change.

Alas, we never knew that our joy was a small part of the big conspiracy. If you had read the issue of *The Tech* from Tuesday, May 5, you probably encountered a news feature from Nepal. The article, written by *New York Times* journalist Tilak Pokherel, reported the controversial resignation of the standing prime minister of Nepal, Pushpa Kamal Dahal, popularly known by his communist name, "Prachanda."

In April 2008, Nepal hoisted a historic general election. Elected as the leading party, the Maoists, with Prachanda as the head, had been ruling the country with some coalition partners

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Russia Confounds Western Pundits by Failing to Collapse

Gallez, from Page 5

Clinton is expected to attend, will hopefully cement the renewed ties.

However, for all the hard work and signs of good will from both countries, it seems that the discordance between them runs deeper and is still very much tainted by Cold War-era attitudes.

That Russia has been flaunting international conventions on human rights with regards to its citizens and that its dubious brand of home-concocted "sovereign democracy" leave much to be desired are not breaking news, though they should provoke a much stricter response from the West. But it takes two for a conflict, and in turn it does not hurt to examine the U.S. rhetoric on Russia, especially with regards to its media coverage.

To start with, Russia seemed to take the backstage in major American dailies' coverage of the G20 meeting in London. The *Wall Street Journal* ran a little blurb on Russia in the inside pages of its "G-20 Summit" section, in a box entitled "G-20 Dispatches," rather than a full story amid its main coverage, as Obama's meetings with the leaders of other countries received. Similarly, the *Boston Globe* ran one Op-Ed piece on April 3, but no news coverage of the U.S. and Russian presidents' first meeting. Likewise in the *New York Times'* April 3 coverage of the economic summit, a closer look at Russia only appeared in a brief letter to the editor ("Zero Nuclear Weapons").

This seems to jar with Russia's self-perception and proclamation at home and abroad of having regained its super-power status on the world stage, a sentiment that was reinforced by Russian officials' conclusions on the G20 summit. Admittedly, Russian Finance Minister Alexei Kudrin's demand, during his April 24 visit to Washington D.C., that the United States treats Russia as a peer in the sphere of global affairs, may sound a little childish and immature given Russia's severe delays in legislative reform and the state of its economy.

Still, it is hard not to see at least signs of what Lavrov denounced as the West's "Information War on Russia." His comments followed the release of a survey on April 22

showing Russians' majority support for their country's foreign policy and satisfaction with its international influence.

Kudrin in Washington made a similar complaint, saying that some Western media had misquoted him as saying that the Russian economy would not recover from the crisis for 50 years, even though his comments referred only to external conditions such as oil prices and how they may change in the next 10 to 50 years.

The West has had plenty of very justifiable reasons to distrust the Kremlin's words, especially when they come in the form of Putin's verbal attacks or even expletives—as is sometimes the case with his speeches to the West—or when he referred to the United States as "a wolf with a limited point of view."

But it is hard not to feel a hint of gloating satisfaction coming from some Western quarters at the possibility of a Russia collapsing under its own economic mistakes and "misguided" worldview. Indeed, for the past couple of years, just as Russia has been clamoring its comeback, the U.S. and Western media have been replete with commentaries predicting doomsday scenarios due to the slump in oil prices.

There is no doubt that Russia's unhealthy reliance on its energy resources is responsible for its dysfunctional economy. The problem is that Western observers have been predicting Russia's "imminent collapse" for quite a while now—to no avail. Perhaps surprisingly for many non-Russian economists, Russia has weathered relatively well economic crises—both the present and earlier ones. Russian financial experts attribute this to Russia's "special conditions."

Russia is now feeling the full impact of the crisis, with the unemployment rate hitting 10 percent last month and expected to continue to rise in the second half of the year, according to the Russian Economic Ministry. Hopefully, Russia will learn that legislation and diversification are key to a healthy economy. But does it deserve the gloating glance it is receiving from the U.S. media?

The *Wall Street Journal's* February 5 "Russia Shifts Bailout From Industry to Banks"

seems to celebrate Russia's "Plunging Cash Reserves and New Credit Downgrade," and the glee is palpable in its sub-title which states that these conditions "Pushed the Kremlin to Acknowledge 'Very Difficult' Circumstances." Later, the article quotes a Goldman Sachs economist as saying that, "The fact they were downgraded today is a reminder that they don't have infinite money and that's what they're just beginning to get their heads around," which seems to satisfactorily confirm Western predictions by playing up to the anti-Russian mantra that has been echoing from some corridors in Washington. The article comes with a schema showing Russia's "shrinking surplus" and "tumbling crude-oil prices."

An earlier *WSJ* piece, on December 5, seemed to seek to convey the idea that ordinary Russians themselves are worried sick about the situation in their country, with the headline "Putin Tries to Soothe Anxious Russians," while my own eight years as a Moscow correspondent have repeatedly made clear to me that apathy and indifference are the most usual responses from Russian citizens to their country's various crises. If not, the vast majority of people are usually supportive of the Kremlin's policies.

An Op-Ed piece in the April 3 issue of the *Boston Globe* refers to Russia as our "difficult partner," calling for "a way to deal more successfully with a resurgent and dyspeptic Russia." We know that Russia's efforts to regain some of its political and economic power over the past years have been faltering and are to a great extent due to its own ineffective laws and customs—but is the allusion to indigestion really necessary? While President Obama is working hard to mend the United States' tense diplomatic relations with the rest of the world following many years of Bush's disastrous policies, how exactly is this kind of language and tone helping US-Russian relations—starting with Americans' view of Russia?

At the G20, Obama stressed that, although relations between the two nations are strained, they also share many interests and can work together, he said in an obvious effort to put Russia's "bear" image behind him.

On the Russian side, Medvedev has sent

some encouraging messages towards the West, giving an interview to the independent opposition daily *Novaya Gazeta* last month and embracing online new media with the launch in late April of his blog on the Russian LiveJournal website, which (assuming that outspoken comments do not get deleted) may well herald a new era of openness between the Kremlin and the citizens. Undoubtedly, Medvedev has been engaging the Russian and Western audiences in unprecedented ways for a Russian president.

This is all very pleasant and encouraging. Still, Obama should be aware of who he is dealing with at all times. It may not be the Soviet bear anymore, but it is no secret that as Prime Minister, Putin is the one pulling the strings. After appointing Medvedev in a farcical election, he is still seen by 27 percent of the population as the one behind major decisions in the Kremlin, according to an April survey, and it is my firm belief that he is engineering a comeback. According to the same poll, 57 percent of Russians expect him to be the next president. It is crucial that Obama be aware of this and who for now might be behind Medvedev's smiles and actions.

Regardless, Obama's decision to engage rather than distrust is wise, smart, and honorable. In response to a question at the G20 in London on whether the United States and Russia can make progress together on reducing nuclear stockpiles and the threat of terrorism, he responded with his smart and now famous reply, "I think we can."

His very first visit to Russia in July—to a summit Medvedev invited him to while in London—will be a test to see if all the hard work on both sides was done in earnest and whether the words exchanged were meant for more than strategic rhetoric and pressing "the reset button." There will be much to look forward to from this first visit.

Till then, one still wishes that US-Russian relations could be as easy and smooth as in Twitterland, where plenty of Barack Obamas and Dmitry Medvedevs have been happily and melodiously twittering and chirping away with each other without a single negative-sounding note...

Deception: Ex-Nepali PM Lies to UN Monitors

Rijal, from Page 5

since August 2008.

Let me introduce you to this man. Let me reveal Prachanda to you. I consider this man to be a power hungry, self-centered villain. Until yesterday, I used to regard him with respect, although I could hardly forget the pains inflicted upon the millions of Nepalese during the civil war.

When Prachanda assumed power, he made a promise to protect the nation and our nationality. He promised to the Nepalese people that he would rebuild the country's infrastructure and eliminate poverty, illiteracy and suffering. The tenth poorest country in the world had waited for a long time for this opportunity. We craved for a change, trusting our dreams to the Maoists.

But for Prachanda, building power and prosperity was nothing but a way to horde money for his party and establish communistic supremacy in the nascent democracy. A shocking video released today by the Image Channel broadcasting network following the resignation by the premier uncovered the true nature of this deceptive ruler. The video footage, dating back to January 2008, features a secret gathering held by Maoists prior to the general elections in Nepal. In the video, Prachanda speaks to his cadres and tells them that he had fooled the UNMIN officials into believing that the Peoples' Liberation Army (PLA) force was 35,000 strong while the number was just between 7,000 and 8,000.

He explains his deception, saying that it was the only way to raise money for his party. The PLA members were camped into cantonments and paid a certain budget based on their number, meaning that Prachanda was generat-

ing more revenue with his false reporting. He further added that a small fraction of the money would be distributed to the families of people who died in the war and the bulk of it would be used for preparing for a more robust armed conflict, while in the process killing thousands of people and demolishing properties worth millions of rupees.

In his approximately ten minute long talk, Prachanda also discusses at length his strategies for the upcoming election. He said Maoists should publicly support the election but privately they should recognize that Maoists as a party would only use this election to revamp their revolution. He said, "We are not going to election because we are seeking an agreement with the ruling party. Please don't be misled." He added, "After the election, we will keep nourishing our revolution until and unless we become the rulers, until and unless each of you seating here gets integrated to Nepal army and until and unless our demands are met."

Prachanda further said, "Once we assume responsibility of Nepal, we will make rules. We will reduce Nepal armies and with the help of our PLA combatants, we will capture the army. We will rule the nation. The sovereignty will fall upon us."

Ironically things worked just as he had planned. Maoists got the opportunity to lead the government. Prachanda became the prime minister, and, as he was integrating the PLA combatants into the Nepalese army, he faced stiff resistance from the establishment. So, Prachanda chose to sack General Rookmangud Katawal, the chief of army staff. After the decision was made, President Ram Baran Yadav stepped in and reinstated the army general.

Following the president's decision, the Mao-

ists pulled out of the government, criticizing the move by President as being undemocratic and a threat to civil supremacy. Prachanda resigned, claiming that his action was a sacrifice for protection of peace and Republicanism—a claim we now can see for the hollow rhetoric it really is.

After the video was aired for the first time by Image Channel, most of society, with the exception of pro-Maoists, expressed a deep sorrow that its trust was manipulated so deceitfully. Maoists started weighing revolution again—killing an innocent person within a space of 4 hours. Rather than coming to public and apologizing (although I doubt that Nepalese will ever forgive his hypocrisy) Prachanda instead stood silent as his combatants attacked the news station. Violence takes its toll and people cry in agony. How long will this continue?

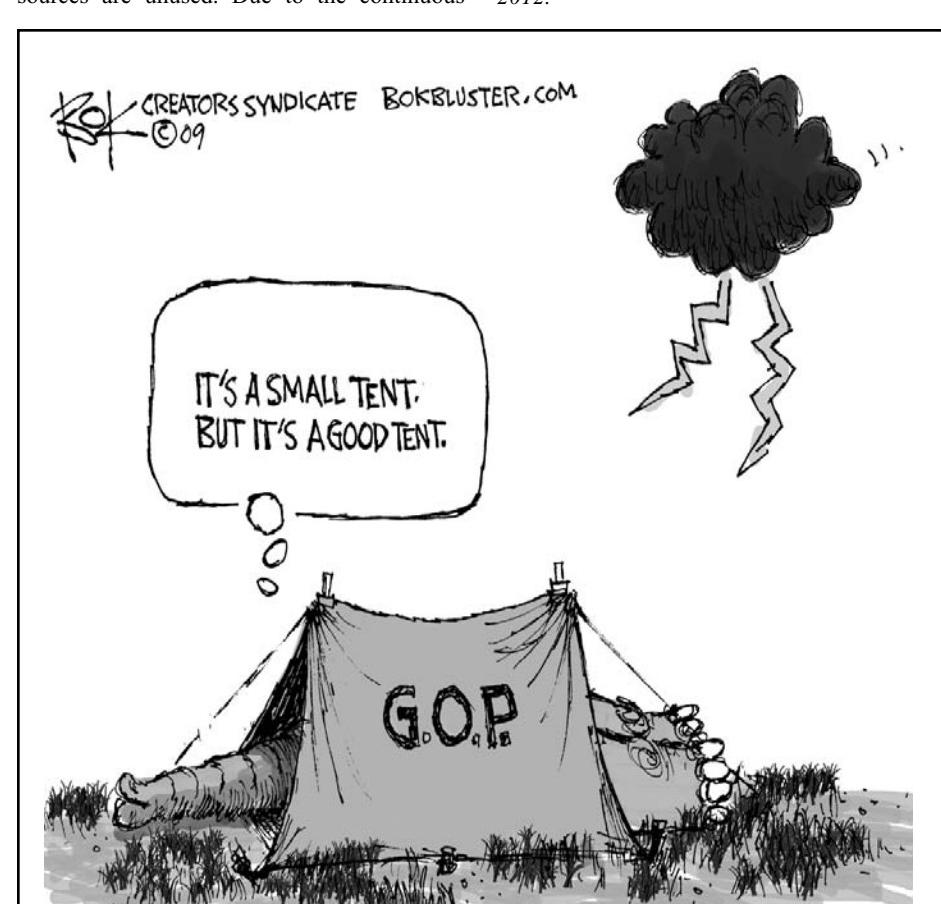
Nepal is becoming poorer and poorer. Resources are unused. Due to the continuous

unrest, most of the educated population has sought permanent residences in America or the UK. This winter, Nepalese had power cuts for 16 hours every day. Due to continuous strikes, and a lack of maintenance, it can take four days to travel on 150 miles of open road. Schools are rarely open. Such is the tragedy, and so my motherland continues to sink down the abyss of suffering.

The problem in my opinion lies right at the root. As Thomas Carlyle said, "The history of the world is but the biography of great men." Nepal is in a need of a leader who can forget his personal ideologies and dedicate himself to the service of the country. We need a leader who can understand the sufferings of the people, and we need a leader who, most of all, loves Nepal and the rich traditions set by our forefathers. The nation needs us; we, as the young generation, have to step up now.

Ram Rijal is a member of the Class of 2012.

What if classes eliminated problem sets, and based your entire grade on the final exam? Share your opinion with the community. join@tech.mit.edu



ARTS

MOVIE REVIEW

A Real-Life Comic Book

Frank Miller's 'The Spirit' Now on DVD

By Danbee Kim

STAFF WRITER

The Spirit

Written and Directed by Frank Miller

Now Available on DVD

The *Spirit* is a moving comic book — every shot is a tiny masterpiece, full of details and subtleties that would make any graphic novel a drool-worthy piece of art. And that is *The Spirit*'s greatest flaw: Frank Miller put so much life onto the screen that it would take multiple viewings — of the movie, the commentary, and the special features — to digest it all. Not only is the average audience member unaccustomed to applying so much scrutiny to a film, but film as a medium cannot handle such overflow of detail — the picture you see is constantly moving, and you just don't have the time to pore over every corner of every picture.

ALBUM REVIEW

Kutiman 1, Girl Talk 0

'Thru-You': The Mother of All Mash-ups

By Charles Lin

SENIOR EDITOR

Kutiman

Thru-You

www.thru-you.com

Girl Talk had it all wrong. Why mash up the familiar when there's a whole internet of tubes to sample. Every beat, every riff, every note. Somewhere on the tubes, it's there, waiting. Want a reggae guitar riff in A-minor? Want siren sounds, bass grooves, or perhaps some suburban freestyling? Just search.

This is the genius of *Thru-You*, a mash-up album made entirely of sampled YouTube clips by the Tel Aviv composer and musician, Kutiman.

Now You are in the band. You are playing lead on the title track. Your bedroom beatboxing and backyard drumming are laying down a groove. You just don't know it yet. But with a little guidance, a little mixing, editing, and coaxing, your homemade clips come together to form an arresting and vivid composition.

It's found art in its highest form — a compelling look at people making something bigger than themselves without ever knowing. The rapper on the street, recorded on a cell phone camera, takes on a grand scope encompassed by bass lines and beats. The girl singing alone in her bedroom suddenly finds an orchestra behind her. Even the mundane, clips of school kids clapping and dancing in a gym, becomes a perfectly synced clap track.

Each track is a ready-made music video of grainy images, shaky camera work, and the intimacy of home videos. The star of the fifth track, "Someday," is a mother singing a lullaby to her child in a beige coated living room. In "Just A Lady," a barely visible girl sings hauntingly in her room, a performance on the smallest stage.

In these and almost every still and shot, there's no inkling that these clips will be used in tracks already viewed hundreds of thousands of times online. It makes you wonder what some of these people would think if they saw their performances in this context. Maybe they've daydreamed of fame and rock-stardom. Maybe they made the video to send to a relative. I doubt any of them could have ever imagined they'd be playing parts in one of the most surprising musical projects of the year.

Taken as an album, *Thru-You* is a breathtaking work of freshness and energy. Its grooves are infectious, and although it's an album of samples, it draws inspiration as much from The Meters as from The Books. If only the audio tracks were released, they'd warrant repeat listens.

But *Thru-You* is much more than just an album, for Kutiman has managed to capture the creative energy of the entire YouTube generation. It's a work that finally manifests the potential of this new media. YouTube has already upturned notions of celebrity, art, music, and media. With *Thru-You*, Kutiman has brought the YouTube generation to the center of the musical stage and orchestrated a remarkable first movement.

The movie not only looks like a comic strip — it feels like one. While this movie is an incredible tribute to Miller's mentor Will Eisner, by staying so true to the original, Miller created a film that delivers more than its audience might be able to handle. The dialogue is a bizarre marriage of over-the-top drama and cheesy one-liners. Abnormal physical abilities, such as withstanding incredible amounts of pain, are introduced to the audience in a flippant manner. Incredibly subtle colors convey emotion, like the red slowly peeking out from behind a young femme fatale during an angry breakup — the same dark angry red that saturates the background seconds later as the audience watches her silhouette run away.

Speaking of femme fatales — while the male characters of *The Spirit* are undoubtedly handsome, battle-hardened, or both, the women of *The Spirit* steal the show with their stunning display of cold intelligence and heartless

manipulation paired with sultry beauty and a wardrobe to die for. The femme fatales alone might drag you through the movie, even if you don't obsess over graphic novels on principle.

As a dedicated admirer of Frank Miller, of graphic novels, and of the hard-boiled noir genre, I have been looking forward to *The Spirit* and its film rendition. However, I avoided watching it in theaters for exactly the reasons stated above. I wanted time to digest and understand the visual storytelling that Frank Miller does so well. After watching *Sin City* and *300*, it was clear that Miller's movie-making style was to literally bring comic books to life — instead of creating a reinterpretation of one story medium in another, he wanted the two mediums to meld into something even richer, more powerful, and more concise.

For a graphic novel reader (or in Miller's case, graphic novel writer) such an idea is the perfect wet dream. For the average movie-

goer expecting another hardcore action film full of stoic muscular men, it's a severe disappointment.

Watch the DVD, if only to watch the special features. The behind-the-scenes documentaries are not only entertaining and informative — they'll make you like the movie if you didn't already, and if you did, they'll make you appreciate it. Only here is it apparent how much attention to detail was poured into this film. The special features open the door to examining the deeper layers of the film and encourage multiple viewings of the main feature.

The DVD case and cover art are unfortunately misleading. By choosing a look that is strongly reminiscent of *Sin City* and a title font very similar to that of *300*, audiences are led to expect a plot and storytelling style strongly reflecting Miller's previous hardcore action films — a major marketing mistake.

MOVIE REVIEW ★★★½

Tokyo Sonata

Poignant Social Commentary from Director Kurosawa



Teruyuki Kagawa as Ryuhei Sasaki.

COURTESY OF REGENT RELEASING

By Joanne Shih

STAFF WRITER

Tokyo Sonata

Directed by Kiyoshi Kurosawa

Starring Teruyuki Kagawa

PG-13

Limited release tonight at Kendall Square Cinema

Looking for a feel-good, happy-go-lucky movie? You won't find it in *Tokyo Sonata*, director Kiyoshi Kurosawa's latest film. But for what it lacks in fairy tale happy-ever-afters, *Sonata* more than makes up for it in its dark, subtle humor and highly perceptive look at the underground culture of unemployment in Japan and its impact on one seemingly typical family.

Ryuhei Sasaki (Teruyuki Kagawa) is the father and head of the household, a middle-aged businessman who, within the first few minutes of the film, loses his job. His struggles and the shame he feels over this loss, magnified by the social pressures to maintain all appearances of providing for his family, compose one of the main storylines. We see Ryuhei enter into the secret world of the unemployed, men who put

on business suits in the morning in front of their wives and children, only to wait in lines for free food and for disappointingly menial job opportunities.

But Ryuhei is not the only one with a secret or internal struggle — younger son Kenji (Inowaki Kai) has his own agenda, using the lunch money his mother gives him to pay for piano lessons, after his father, in a desperate attempt to retain some sense of control of his family, forbids him to learn. Older son and slacking college student Takashi (Yu Koyanagi) wants to go join the U.S. military, a decision that only causes further conflict and confrontation in the family. Of course, the mother is the glue that holds the family together, and Megumi (Kyoko Koizumi) does a remarkably admirable job of it. Unfortunately, her quiet efforts, cooking and taking care of her family, cannot keep things from spinning out of control. Watching them fall apart, from the view of each individual member rather than the whole family at once, is like watching a car crash in slow motion.

While *Sonata* is far from a typical horror movie, it's clear why director Kurosawa (*Pulse*, *Cure*) is well known for his existen-

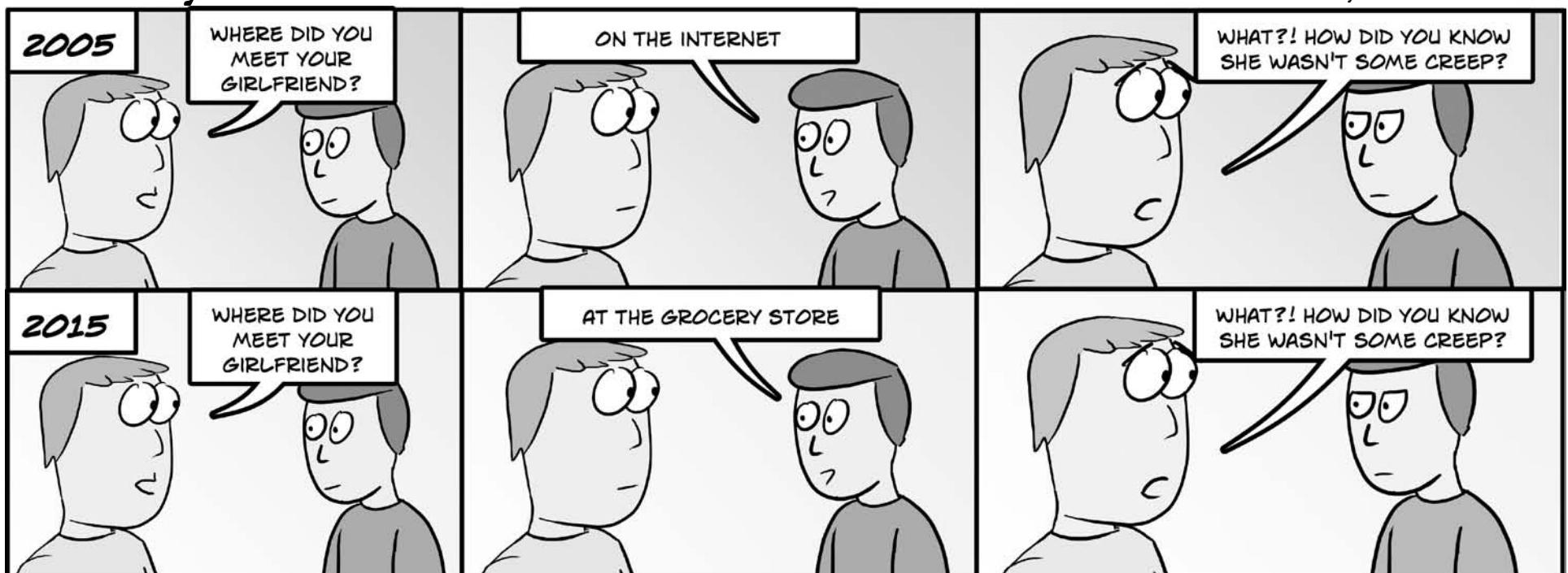
tialist thrillers. We see a family go through the daily routines of meals and coming home from school or work, yet quiet moments are captured in an almost chilling manner. Silences are significant. Waiting in lines is significant. The dialogue is simple and conversational. It is this simplicity that carries the film's poignancy.

And although the story never quite relents in terms of one depressing twist after another, one of the film's strengths is its quiet humor. There are countless moments when you can't help laughing inside at the sheer awkwardness or irony of the situation (not to mention plenty of FML-worthy scenes as well). For the most part, the acting is solid and convincing; I found Inowaki Kai's portrayal of the rebellious and determined younger son to be particularly winsome. These are real people facing real problems, and the powerful social commentary on the economic recession is best seen through this extremely personal light.

Tokyo Sonata has already won many film festival awards (from the Cannes Film Festival, Hochi Film Awards, Yokohama Film Festival, and more) for its acting, directing, and cinematography.

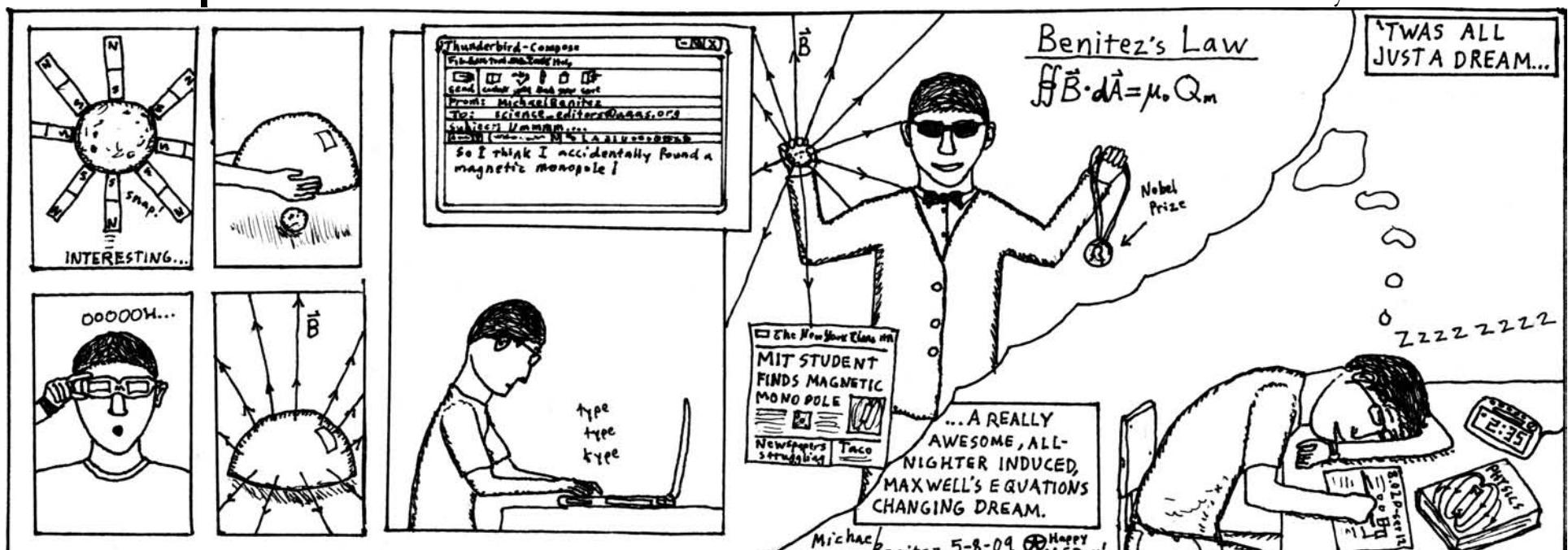
Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo



The Help Desk

by Michael Benitez

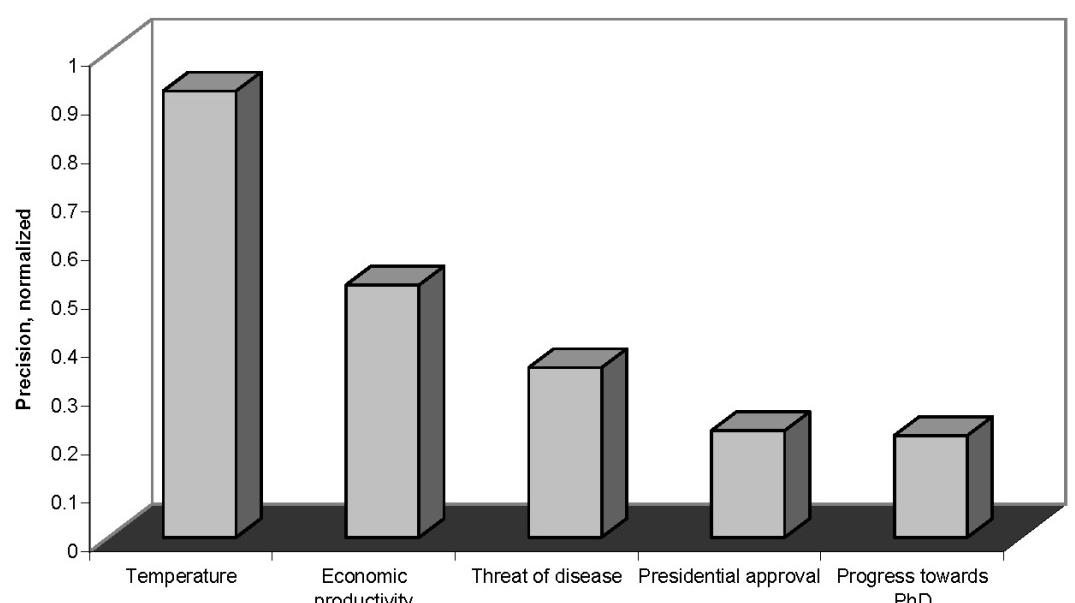


BLACK MOLD Exposure

IT CAN HAPPEN TO YOU

Pseudoscience

by Daniel Klein-Marcuschamer



Kendall Square Cinema
Thur. May 14 - 7:20pm
One night only!

Q and A to follow screening

A documentary film
by
Michael Roland Williams

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PG PARENTAL GUIDANCE SUGGESTED
SOME MATERIAL MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN
HOMEUSE MATERIAL MAY NOT BE LOANED AND IS NOT FOR RESALE

WATCHTOWER
PICTURES

Figure 57. The graph shows the precision of the metrics used to measure different quantities. A value of 1 indicates that commonly-used metrics allow different people to reach the same conclusion about the measured quantity, whereas lower values indicate that different people reach different conclusions. For example, a temperature of 100 °F implies unbearable heat for most observers, whereas an influenza threat level of 5 causes panic in some but not others. The very low value of the penultimate entry has allowed the media to exploit the associated metrics for attracting large audiences. Being a week short of defending his thesis, the author prefers not to comment on the last entry. (Post a comment at <http://pseudocomic.blogspot.com>)

The Daily Blunderbuss

Lex Luthor defeat me?
Pah.. When pigs fly...



by Ben Peters

su|do|ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.
Solution on page 11.

			7								2		
8				5							9		
			5								8		7
			6	1							2		4
			8									3	
3											1	2	6
			8								9	6	
				3							7		8
1											6		

Solution, tips, and computer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 11

ACROSS

- 1 Hosiery hue
5 Gillette razor
9 Entire range
14 Word before beer or canal
15 God of love
16 Not in the dark
17 Actor Ray
18 Monopoly fee
19 __ cum laude
20 Competition for orators?
23 Els and Banks
24 Spoken
25 Mad. Ave. output
28 Tissue additive
30 40th president
32 Play part
35 Competition for astronomers?
38 Uncommon
40 Motorists' org.
41 Mimic
42 Competition for witches?
47 D.C. clock setting
48 Fanons, formerly
49 "Peter Pan" pirate
51 Journalist Hentoff

52 Govt. agency

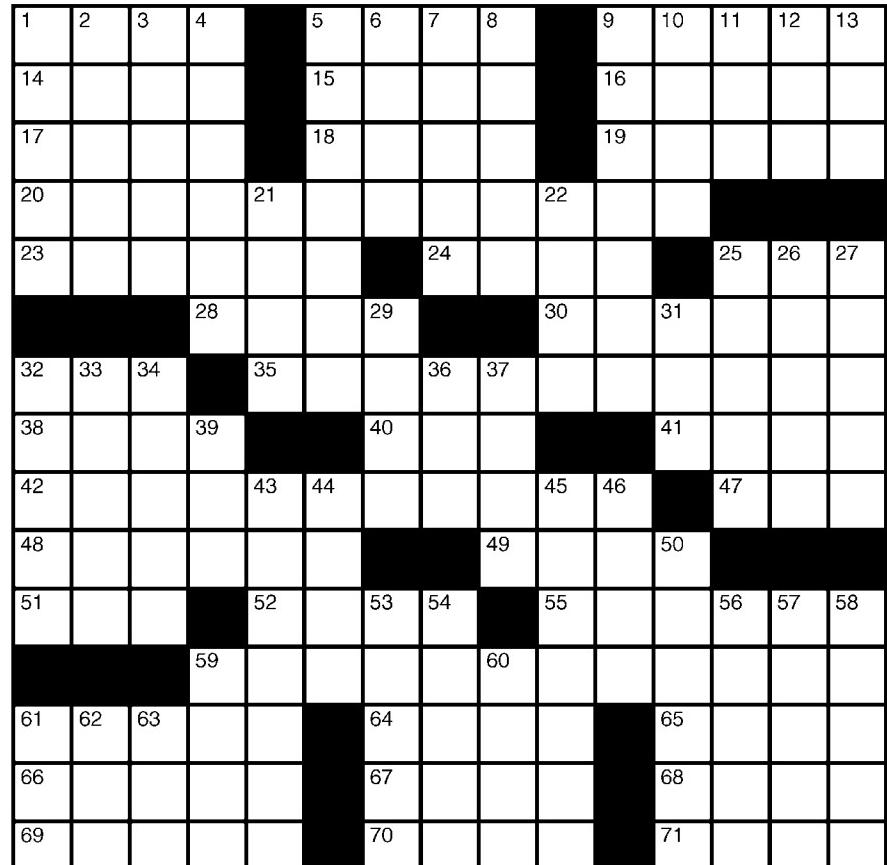
- 55 Rowling's hero
59 Competition for clerics?
61 Spokes
64 __ she blows!
65 Levin and Gershwin
66 Merge
67 Puerto __
68 Composer Porter
69 Lawn tools
70 River to the Baltic
71 Editor's notation

DOWN

- 1 Obliterate
2 "The __ of Money"
3 Japanese sci-fi film
4 Perfect place
5 Spray dispenser
6 "Bang a Gong (Get It On)" band
7 Concerto part
8 Fall flower
9 Casino regular
10 Not at home
11 Periodical, briefly
12 Fancy vase
13 Social affair
21 Actor Lugosi

22 __ avis

- 25 Slack-jawed
26 "South Pacific" extras
27 Hagar's dog
29 Panache
31 Ottoman official
32 Flaming felony
33 "It Happened One Night" director
34 Pick up the tab
36 Droop
37 Slot inserts
39 Mansion wing
43 Southpaws
44 Words of comprehension
45 Sovereign ruler
46 Fair-hiring grp.
50 Study of morals
53 Paris subway
54 Plant louse
56 Seer's deck
57 On-line deal
58 Alarm clock button
59 Web location
60 Shoestring
61 Capek play
62 Literary miscellany
63 Cartoonist Browne



Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

Dance Troupe ‘In The Spotlight’



Dance Troupe performed at a dress rehearsal for their spring show, “In The Spotlight,” on Wednesday evening in Kresge auditorium. The show will run in Kresge Auditorium May 7–10.

(clockwise from top left)

Corey J. Kubber ’11 confronts Tarikh C. Campbell ’09 in a piece by Adlai Grayson ’08.

Rachel N. Peterson ’09 dances to choreography by Adlai R. Grayson ’08.

Nimisha Kashyap, Rachel N. Peterson ’09, Sonia Tapryal, and Kaitlin Walsh perform a Bollywood piece choreographed by Nimisha Kashyap.

Pierre-Guy F. Douyon ’12 takes center stage in a popping piece performed by guest group Imobilare choreographed by Yang Zhang G, Mason Tang ’10, and Raymond Y. Cheng ’09.

Emily C. Suter ’11 performs in a contemporary piece choreographed by Danyi Wu ’11 and Casey K. Hua ’11.

Photography by William Yee.



Recycled 'Tech' Issue Featured D'Amelio Photo on Front Page

Keegan, from Page 1

The recycled newspapers prominently featured coverage of the arrest of former MIT Police officer Joseph D'Amelio, who had been arrested the Saturday before for drug trafficking in East Boston. D'Amelio remains under house arrest.

Keegan's relationship with stu-

dents has been rocky. He was the arresting officer in two prominent cases involving hacking: the October 2006 arrest of three students who set off an alarm at the E52 Faculty Club and the June 2008 arrest of a student in the basement of NW16.

In both cases, the charges against the students were subsequently dropped.

Lori Berenson, Former MIT Student, In Prison Bears Peruvian Child

Berenson, from Page 1

Berenson was a student in the anthropology and archaeology section of the humanities department when she withdrew from MIT as a sophomore in 1988. Berenson first became interested in human rights activism during a UROP in anthropology, according to her parents. Berenson went to Peru as a freelance journalist for *Third World Viewpoint* and *Modern Times*.

She was arrested in 1995 and sentenced in 1996 by a Peruvian military court to life in prison for high treason and terrorist activity. A new trial in the civilian courts in 2001 saw her sentence reduced to 20 years for collaboration with the Tupac Amaru in their plans to attack the Peruvian congress in 1994 by renting a house and buying computer and communications parts for the rebels.

Berenson continues to maintain her innocence.

Berenson's parents — Mark and Rhoda, college professors in New York City — say they are thrilled at the prospect of a grandchild, according to the Associated Press. Mark and Rhoda Berenson came to MIT in April 2000 and spoke to students, faculty, and other members of the local community about Berenson's situation in an event cosponsored by MIT Amnesty International and the MIT Social Justice Cooperative. The Social Justice Cooperative also circulated a petition for Berenson's release.

James Williamson, a local activist, presented a resolution expressing support of Berenson that was passed by the Cambridge City Council.

According to the *New York Times*, in 2000, Berenson was being held in

isolation in a cell without light, heat, or running water.

Although the first trial in the military courts was called a "parody of justice" by Amnesty International, according to the *New York Times*, Ari Fleischer, a Bush aide, said that President Bush had not asked for clemency for Berenson since the second trial in the civilian courts followed due process. In addition, in 1999, the U.S. House of Representatives did not pass legislation that would have allowed only humanitarian aid to be sent to Peru unless Berenson was released.

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights was Berenson's last chance at an appeal after her sentencing in the civilian courts, but in 2004 they upheld the civilian courts' ruling.

H A Y D E N L I B R A R Y

open 24 hours

May 14 - May 22

The Humanities and Science libraries (Hayden Library) will be open 24 hours-a-day during finals week, beginning Thursday, May 14 at 8 a.m. through Friday, May 22 at 7 p.m.

For a complete list of libraries and their hours see:
libraries.mit.edu/about/hours

Congratulations graduating seniors! Have a great summer.



The Sloan (Course 15) Course Bidding System (Sloanbid) Bidding Dates for Fall, 2009 Courses

<https://sloanbid.mit.edu>

First time logging in? Use your MIT ID as both your log in and password. Follow instructions on the site to change your password or retrieve lost passwords. Once logged in, make sure and check that your information (i.e. program of study and graduation date) is correct.

Institute-wide bidding for Sloan (Course 15) subjects:

Opens 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, May 12
Closes 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 19

Waitlist Round for closed Sloan (Course 15) subjects:

Opens 9:00 a.m., Monday, July 13
Closes 5:00 p.m., Monday, July 27

Section Swap Round for changing sections of pre-enrolled Sloan (Course 15) subjects:

Opens 9:00 a.m., Thursday, July 30
Close 5:00 p.m., Thursday, August 6

Please contact Scott Alessandro, salessan@mit.edu, if you have questions regarding Sloan (Course 15) Course Bidding.

Successful bids will appear on your Registration Form on September 8 and will be posted on the bidding website as of July 13 -- write down your password to check results!

An unlocked gun could be the death of your family.
Please lock up your gun.

www.unloadandlock.com

**NATIONAL CRIME
PREVENTION COUNCIL**



This space donated by The Tech



Daniel Barkowitz, Director of Student Financial Aid and Employment at MIT, discusses financial aid with a family during Campus Preview Weekend at the Financial Aid counseling center. Barkowitz will leave MIT effective June 1, when he moves to Columbia University as Dean of Financial Aid.

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DTYD Kresge Bomb Produced Confusion, Bad Communication

Bomb scare, from Page 1

bomb's marking, "DTYD," was a party registered to the Bombers that evening, and called the Bombers themselves? Students should take responsibility for their hacks, DiFava said. "How far are we supposed to go?"

The day of the hack, MIT dean Barbara Baker told the Bombers that MIT would be get a bill and the Bombers would pay it. Rumors have swirled that it could reach tens of thousands of dollars, a number which "hacking czar" David M. Barber said didn't sound unreasonable for a multi-hour many-person effort.

But if any bill comes, it will be as part of MIT's annual Payment in Lieu of Taxes, a payment negotiated in part based on the value of City of Cambridge services rendered to the largely tax-exempt university.

No decision has yet been reached about how much, if anything, MIT will be billed for the bomb squad action.

"This was definitely a hack ... a misunderstood one," said Roe Smith.

Next time... advance warning?

The bomb squad might not have gotten called in if the MIT Police had known ahead of time about a possible public "bomb," DiFava said.

DiFava didn't say he wanted students to run all hacks by him. But they should take responsibility for their actions and for their hacks, he said.

Students should feel comfortable talking with trusted police officers about ideas that involve public displays which could be misinterpreted, he said.

"Students need to realize that there are people in the police department that they can trust," DiFava said. He said he could be one such person: "Chief, here's an idea that we have..."

"We're here as a resource," he said.

Solution to Crossword

from page 9														
B	U	T	J	A	B	S	P	R	E	W	A	R	O	M
M	T	A	A	L	O	E	R	E	N	E	W	Z	I	N
W	A	R	Z	I	N	G	O	L	D	I	D	O	S	E
			O	Z	Z	I	E	S	B	O	R	U	N	R
A	L	T	A				T	E	A	R	S	A	T	
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S	B	A	I	O	L	A	S	O	B	S				
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N	A	D	A	E	R	O	S	E	X	O				
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Tuesday, May 12, 2009
4:00 pm
Huntington Hall
Building 10, Room 250

Police Review Panel Has Tight Scope: Police Policies

By John A. Hawkinson
NEWS EDITOR

The Tech sat down with Professor Robert J. Silbey last week to talk about the Campus Police review panel. Silbey is chairing

the panel (see membership below) formed in the aftermath of the arrest of then-MIT Police Officer Joseph D'Amelio on drug trafficking charges.

Silbey said the review panel is

Review Panel Members

Costantino "Chris" Colombo

Peter A. Diamond

Deborah L. Fisher

Robert C. Haas

Dana G. Mead PhD '67

R. Gregory Morgan

Robert J. Silbey (chair)

Blanche Staton

Dean for Student Life

Institute Professor

Institute Auditor

Cambridge Police Commissioner

Chairman of the Corporation

Vice President and General Counsel

Professor and former Dean of Science

Senior Associate Dean for Graduate Students

narrowly focused on the policies and procedures of the MIT Police, and not on particular incidents, review of particular events, and not on hacking.

Those policies and procedures, which Silbey described as a 3" stack of paper, are "almost entirely about how the police chain of command operates, what training is required, how the evaluations are done, what disciplinary procedures there are, and other administrative issues of that kind," Silbey said.

The panel is evaluating those policies and procedures in accordance with its charter, which is to

determine whether those policies, along with "governance and disciplinary systems," are those "needed to promote police practice at the highest level."

Because of the committee's narrow breadth of focus, student input was not deemed critical to the committee, Silbey said. The committee is not actively soliciting student input, nor does a student sit on the committee.

The panel's work is scheduled to be completed by the end of this month. Its written report will be submitted to Executive Vice President Theresa M. Stone SM '76 and

President Susan J. Hockfield. The report will probably be confidential, Silbey said, but a public summary may be made available.

One open question is the public status of the MIT Police's Policies and Procedures. Sources have told The Tech that those policies are confidential, unlike those of other police departments such as Cambridge Police Department and the Mass. State Police.

Silbey said the panel was not aware of the public status of those policies, but that transparency of those policies might be something the panel would examine.

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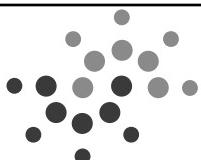
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No excuses, only opportunities

Brecht Presents Galileo Galilei, Embattled Renaissance Scientist

Galileo, from Page 1

Wheeler also deploys his actors expertly along the thrusting rectangle of the stage, always focusing our attention just where it should be while maintaining visual variety and interest. It's a large cast — 13, many playing multiple roles — but we always know just who is the focus of each scene.

Much of the time, of course, that's Galileo, the Renaissance scientist doing battle against the forces of darkness to establish the reign of reason, specifically in the matter of whether Earth revolves around the sun. But Brecht's Galileo is a fascinatingly flawed human being, not a heroic icon, and the playwright is at least as interested in his flaws as in his greatness: not just his weakness in recanting when faced with the terrifying power of the Church, but his culpability, in Brecht's eyes, for placing pure sci-

ence above social progress and the good of humanity.

That last point might sound dangerously didactic, but the production neatly puts it in historical context with a single deft stroke: the boom and flash of a nuclear explosion, reminding us that the play, though begun in 1938, did not premiere in its final form until 1947, under the shadow of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Brecht saw the courage it took to fight for science, but also the arrogance that could take science too far.

All of this may seem tediously abstract for the stage, but Brecht, in David Hare's lean and vivid translation, maintains an essential balance between ideas and actions, philosophy and plot. This "Galileo" is not a tract but a story, and an engrossing one. And Wheeler makes sure that his actors give us the story.

As Galileo, Richard McElvain

is crotchety, impatient, funny, and wise. An unfortunate blond hairpiece creates a minor distraction in the astronomer's younger days, but even that doesn't detract from McElvain's finely textured, completely engaging performance. In the lively universe that Wheeler sets spinning before us, McElvain is the sun.

The planets around him, though, each get a chance to shine. Lewis D. Wheeler, as Galileo's student Andrea Sarti, makes a particularly sharp foil to his mentor as he berates him for recanting; Stephen Russell contributes subtle, specific work in a variety of roles, particularly that of the lens cutter who helps Galileo refine his telescope; Steven Barkhamer has an amusingly pompous gravitas as an academic adversary — and the year's best list of multiple roles in a single production: "Chancellor, Inquisitor, Peasant."

Debra Wise (Underground Railway's artistic director) brings a fluttery, warmhearted energy to the role of Andrea's mother, and Amanda Collins is touchingly sincere in the highly fictionalized role of Galileo's daughter, here named Virginia. In addition, Wheeler elicits detailed and natural performances from the two children onstage, a poised Tim Traversay as the arrogant young Cosimo de Medici and a lively Andrew Cekala as the curious young Andrea Sarti.

The production, with intermission, runs close to three hours; add another hour or so if you plan to take in any of the intriguing pre-performance symposia listed on the theater's website. It's a full evening — but an intensely rewarding one. And every season has room for one more of those.

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TMS is recruiting new committee members!

Email tms-exec@mit.edu to learn more.



YUANYU CHEN—THE TECH

Pablo Bello '11, Edward Grinnel '11, Elvine Pineda '11, and Arielle Fischer '11 placed 2nd, 1st, 3rd, and 4th, respectively, in this year's 2.007 competition.

The 2.007 game, "Sweepin' the Nation," consists of three main tasks — robots could crush soda cans, place crushed or pre-crushed soda cans in a "storage slot," and stack bales of "trash" to obtain points. Robots start out in the starting box on their side of the field and can traverse to their opponent's side via a rotating passage pipe.

Students received a large tote containing different materials — metals, plastics, wheels, etc — to construct their robots. Students had the option of building two robots, one for mainly scoring and one robot to bother the opponents; however, some students chose to build one large robot. Students also had the option of having one or two drivers to control the many mechanisms of their robot.

Matches consisted of an autonomous period, a 10 second period where robots were operated by just their sensors, followed by a 50-second operator-controlled period. Strategies of students varied, with some robots taking advantage of the autonomous period to position themselves and others just staying put in their starting box. Designs of robots to perform the various tasks also varied, and many robots in the final matches were only able to perform one or two of the possible ways to score.

The top four contestants of the contest can attend an international design competition in Tokyo, Japan this summer.



SETH VILLARREAL—THE TECH

Sarah C. Proehl '09 (also a *Tech* campus life columnist) wins first place in the Robert A. Boit Writing Prize for Poetry for her work "Fourteen Months." The award, presented by William Corbett, director of Student Writing Activities, is one of the Ilona Karmel Writing Prizes. This year, the program gathered the largest number of submissions to date.

Monday, May 11 at 2pm

in Room 32-123

Frank Dabek '00,

*Former Editor-in-Chief of The Tech
will be the Special Guest Lecturer in
6.033: Computer Systems Engineering*



MICHAEL YU—THE TECH

Chancellor Philip L. Clay PhD '75 presents a \$2,500 prize to Aquaport at the awards ceremony for the 2009 MIT IDEAS Competition on Monday evening in 32-123. The Aquaport team developed an affordable water transportation device for women in rural Ghana.

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SPORTS

Game of the Week

Baseball Surges Past Fitchburg, Wins 5-4

By James Kramer
DAPER STAFF

Daniel E. Hyatt '11 followed up a run-scoring double by Thomas M. Phillips '09 in the eighth with an RBI single to right, as MIT completed a four-run rally en route to a 5-4 victory against Fitchburg State College. The victory capped a sensational season for the Engineers, who set a program record with 25 wins.

Trailing 4-1 in the bottom of the seventh, Creed J. Mangrum '12 clubbed his third hit of the afternoon to lead off the frame and set the stage for the late comeback. With one out, Brian P. Doyle '11 dropped a single to shallow right field as Mangrum raced home from second to slice the deficit to two. MIT (25-14) added a second run in the inning when Doyle scored on Bryan A. Macomber's '12 line drive single off the leg of Fitchbug pitcher Perry Russo.

David M. Nole '09 walked to lead off the next inning and scored on Phillips' double to deep right center. The run-scoring knock gave Phillips a team-record 50 runs batted in for the campaign. Hyatt followed with what turned out to be the game-winning hit, although reliever Nick Ryan minimized the damage by escaping the stanza with three runners on base.

The Engineers received outstanding contributions from their bullpen to seal the season-ending win. Kenneth M. Lin '12 made an impressive debut on the mound for MIT in the eighth, striking out the first batter he faced before

coming away with the victory. Ryne R. Barry '11 ensured the result with two strikeouts in the ninth while picking up his team-leading third save of the year.

Fitchburg struck first with two runs in the top of the first before adding another pair in the top of the seventh. Kris Breen, who also made his pitching debut on Monday, helped his own cause early with a two-run double to deep center field. Breen worked the first six innings, scattering seven hits and a run while striking out four. In the seventh, Aaron Granahan and Andy Sauer delivered run-scoring hits to give the Falcons a three-run lead.

Mike Scaramellino shouldered the loss for Fitchburg, which fell to 18-17 on the year. Shortstop John Phelan achieved a personal milestone during the tilt by becoming the Falcons' all-time hits leader with a single to lead-off the ninth.

The late rally sweetened what was already a memorable season in MIT lore. Finishing with the most wins in team history, the Engineers also established single-season Institute records for runs scored, hits, doubles, RBI, batting average, double plays turned, and saves.

Individually, Phillips set school records for homeruns (12), extra-base hits (25), RBI, total bases (108), slugging percentage (.800), and on-base percentage (.534). MIT set several records on the defensive end as well. Phillips closed with 344 putouts, Hyatt yielded just one passed ball during the year, and Macomber factored into a team-record 33 double plays while totaling 146 assists.



NEWMAC Announces 2009 Spring Academic All-Conference Teams

The New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference recently announced the 2009 NEWMAC Spring Academic All-Conference Team. Once again,

MIT reigned supreme, collecting a league-best 48 honors, and finishing the year with a total of 124 awards.

Honoress must have met the following criteria: earned a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5/4.0 scale or 4.35/5.0 scale after the 2008 fall semester, achieved a second year academic status at his or her institution, and been a member of a varsity team for the entire season.

Spring sports sponsored by the NEWMAC include: baseball, women's crew, women's lacrosse, softball, men's tennis, and men's and women's outdoor track and field.

Springfield secured the second-highest number of honorees with 41 selections, followed by WPI with 25.

—James Kramer, DAPER Staff

Walter Alessi Named Pilgrim Lacrosse League Coach of the Year

The MIT men's lacrosse team capped off its remarkable season with a slew of awards from the Pilgrim Lacrosse League. For the eighth time in his career, Walter Alessi was tabbed for Coach of the Year accolades after guiding the Engineers to their first playoff appearance since 2001.

Ryan W. Ballentine '09, Corey Garvey '10, and Eric S. Zuk '11 represented MIT on the All-Conference Second Team, marking the program's most selections in nine years. In addition, MIT set the standard for Pilgrim All-Academic honors, tallying 13. Ballentine, Dylan F. Roden '09, Patrick D. Shannon '09, and Ebbe G. Strathairn '09 picked up their third career awards

while William J. Gibson '10, Thomas W. Hay '10, and Jason M. Rathje '09 were repeat honorees. John R. Kucharczyk '11, Justin D. Myers '11, Daniel G. Piemont '10, Nicholas D. Sisler '11, Tomas L. Vianna '11, and Neil S. Zimmerman '09 earned their first recognitions.

—Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

Women's Lacrosse Receives NEWMAC All-Conference Honors

The MIT women's lacrosse team topped off its record-breaking campaign with a trio of NEWMAC All-Conference selections. Casey M. Flynn '10 and Stephanie V. Brenman '09 represented MIT on the First Team while Samantha F. O'Keefe '09 was voted to the Second Team.

Flynn collected her third straight All-Conference award and second First-Team pick after pacing the Engineers with 52 goals, 22 assists, and 74 points. Brenman earned her first league accolade by leading MIT in draw controls (46) and groundballs (43), while compiling 19 goals, three assists, 22 points, and 16 caused turnovers. O'Keefe capped off her career with her second-straight honor as she tallied 41 goals, three assists, 44 points, 31 draw controls, 24 groundballs, and 16 caused turnovers.

—Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

None

SCOREBOARD

Baseball

Sunday, May 3, 2009

MIT (24-14)	3
Suffolk University (30-8)	8

Monday, May 4, 2009

MIT (25-14)	5
Fitchburg State College (18-17)	4

Men's Heavyweight Crew

Saturday, May 2, 2009

Cochrane Cup	
MIT	2nd of 3

Women's Openweight Crew

Saturday, May 2, 2009

Beanpot Regatta	
MIT	6th of 6

Source: <http://www.mitathletics.com/>

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